

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information handling system, comprising:
a first port operable to receive first analog video signals;
5 embedded control logic operably coupled to the first port, the embedded control logic operable to select either the first analog video signals received by the first port or second analog video signals generated by the information handling system; and
10 a second port operably coupled to the embedded control logic, the second port operable to transmit at least one of the first and second analog video signals to a master controller operably coupled to the information handling system.
15
2. The system of Claim 1, wherein the embedded control logic comprises:
a multiplexer including:
a first input interfaced with the first port;
20 a second input interfaced with a video source in the information handling system; and
an output interfaced with the second port;
the multiplexer operable to transmit the first analog video signals received by the first port and the
25 second analog video signals generated by the information handling system to the second port; and
a processing resource interfaced with the multiplexer and the first and second ports, the processing resource operable to generate a mux signal for
30 selecting the first and second analog video signals.

3. The system of Claim 2, further comprising the
mux signal generated based on a selection signal received
from a shared bus through at least one of the first and
second ports on a shared bus, the selection signal
5 generated by the master controller.

4. The system of Claim 1, further comprising the
embedded control logic operable to obtain operating
information associated with the information handling
10 system.

5. The system of Claim 4, further comprising the
operating information selected from the group consisting
of temperature, operating voltage, and fan speed.
15

6. The system of Claim 1, further comprising:
the second port operable to receive third analog
video signals;
the first port operable to transmit the second and
20 third analog video signals; and

the embedded control logic operable to selectively
transmit either the first analog video signals received
by the first port and the second analog video signals
generated by the information handling system over the
25 second port or the third analog video signals received by
the second port and the second analog video signals
generated by the information handling system over the
first port.

7. The system of Claim 1, wherein the embedded control logic includes a backup power source operable to power the embedded control logic if the information handling system is powered off.

5

8. The system of Claim 1, further comprising the first and second ports operable to receive backup power for operating the embedded control logic if an AC power source for the information handling system is

10 disconnected.

9. The system of Claim 1, further comprising:

a first twisted pair cable operably coupled to the first port; and

15 a second twisted pair cable operably coupled to the second port;

the first and second twisted pair cables operable to transmit the first and second analog video signals.

20 10. The system of Claim 1, wherein the first and second analog video signals comprise RGB signals.

11. The system of Claim 1, wherein the master controller receives the first and second analog signals and converts the first and second analog video signals to digital video signals for transmission over an Ethernet.

25

12. An information handling system, comprising:
a first port operable to transmit and receive first
video signals;
a second port operable to transmit and receive
5 second video signals; and
embedded control logic operably coupled between the
first port and the second port, the embedded control
logic operable to selectively transmit to a master
controller operably coupled to the information handling
10 system either the first video signals received from the
first port or third video signals generated by the
information handling system through the second port or
the second video signals received from the second port or
the third video signals generated by the information
15 handling system through the first port.

13. The system of Claim 12, wherein the embedded control logic comprises:

a first multiplexer including:

a first input interfaced with the first port;

5 a second input interfaced with a video source in the information handling system; and

an output interfaced with the second port;

the first multiplexer operable to select either the first video signals received by the first port or the
10 third video signals generated by the information handling system for transmission through the second port;

a second multiplexer including:

a first input interfaced with the second port;

15 a second input interfaced with the video source in the information handling system; and

an output interfaced with the first port;

the second multiplexer operable to select either the second video signals received by the second port or the third video signals generated by the information handling
20 system for transmission through the first port; and

a processing resource interfaced with the first and second multiplexers and between the first and second ports, the processing resource operable to generate mux signals for selecting the first, second and third video
25 signals.

14. The system of Claim 12, further comprising the embedded control logic operable to obtain operating information for the information handling system.

15. The system of Claim 14, further comprising the operating information selected from the group consisting of temperature, operating voltage, operating speed and fan speed.

5

16. The system of Claim 12, wherein the first, second and third video signals comprise analog video signals.

10

17. The system of Claim 12, wherein the embedded control logic includes a backup power source operable to power the embedded control logic if the information handling system is powered off.

15

18. The system of Claim 12, further comprising the first port and second ports operable to receive backup power for operating the embedded control logic if an AC power source for the information handling system is disconnected.

19. A method for managing multiple information handling systems using embedded control logic, comprising:

receiving first analog video signals from a first
5 port;

generating second analog video signals by an information handling system;

selecting either the first analog video signals received from the first port or the second analog video
10 signals generated by the information handling system based on a selection signal received from a master controller operably coupled to the information handling system; and

transmitting the selected analog video signals
15 through a second port to the master controller.

20. The method of Claim 19, further comprising:

obtaining operating information associated with the information handling system; and

20 transmitting system information through the second port to the master controller.

21. The method of Claim 19, further comprising:
receiving third analog video signals from the second
port;

5 selecting the first analog video signals received
from the first port or the second analog video signals
generated by the information handling system for
transmission over the second port;

10 selecting the third analog video signals received
from the second port or the second analog video signals
generated by the information handling system for
transmission over the first port; and

transmitting the selected analog video signals
through at least one of the first and second ports.

15 22. The method of Claim 19, further comprising
generating backup power through a backup power source in
the information handling system if the information
handling system is powered off.

20 23. The method of Claim 19, further comprising the
selection signal received from at least one of the first
and second ports on a shared bus.

25 24. The method of Claim 19, further comprising at
least one of a keyboard signal and a mouse signal
received from at least one of the first and second ports
on a shared bus.